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Appl. No. 10/692,021

Reply to Office action of 6/5/06

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/692,021 Confirmation No. 8529
Applicant : Pflueger
Filed : 10/23/2003
Title : EPIDURAL NERVE ROOT ACCESS CATHETER AND TREATMENT
METHODS

TC/A.U. : 3766
Examiner : BOCKELMAN, MARK

Docket No. : D-2893CIP
Customer No. : 33197

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, to fax number 571-273-8300, on the date indicated below.

8/7/06

LANET MCGHEE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Po Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's communication mailed June 6, 2006, which included a Restriction Requirement.

The Examiner has required restriction between Group I Claims, that is Claims 1-13, drawn to methods of treating a human or animal patient involving the use of a catheter device having a distal region with a preformed configuration including at least one curve and a distal tip; and Group II Claims, that is Claims 14-21, drawn to an apparatus for imaging and/or treating a human or animal patient including a catheter device

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having a distal region having a preformed configuration including a primary curve of at least about 90°.

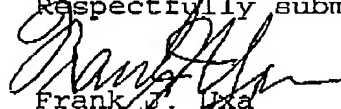
Applicant provisionally elects the Group I claims, that is claims 1-13. However, applicant traverses the restriction requirement.

As noted above, all of the present claims, that is the Group I and Group II claims, are closely related. All of the present claims involve a catheter device sized or structured to be placed in an epidural space of a spinal canal of a human or animal patient. Thus, the Patent and Trademark Office is placed under no undue burden in considering all of the present claims.

In view of the above, applicant respectfully requests that all of the present claims, that is claims 1-21, be considered in the above-identified application.

Applicant respectfully requests early and favorable action in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,



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